

### **REMARKS**

The Office Action dated November 7, 2005 has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action.

Applicants are grateful for the indication that claims 2 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Thus, claims 1 and 9 are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 2 and 10 respectively, and claims 2 and 10 are cancelled without prejudice. In addition, claims 5-8 and 13-16 are also cancelled without prejudice. Thus, Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendments because the Amendments place the application in condition for allowance, do not raise new issues that require further search and/or consideration, and do not contain new matter. Thus, claims 1, 3-4, 9, and 11-12 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3-9, 11-16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over US Patent No. 6,760,341 to Erimli et al (Erimli), in view of US Patent No. 6,011,793 to Smith (Smith). The rejections of claims 5-8 and 13-16 are moot in light of the cancellation of these claims.

As discussed above, the Office Action indicated that claims 2 and 10 recite allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 are amended to incorporate the allowable features of cancelled claims 2 and 10 respectively, claims 1 and 9. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 9 are in condition for allowance. Because claims 3,

4, 11, and 12 depend from claims 1 and 9 respectively, these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as claims 1 and 9.

Applicants submit that each of claims 1, 3, 4, 9, and 11-12 recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that claims 1, 3, 4, 9, and 11-12 be allowed and this application be passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Brown  
Registration No. 51,091

**Customer No. 32294**  
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP  
14<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
8000 Towers Crescent Drive  
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700  
Telephone: 703-720-7800  
Fax: 703-720-7802

DEB:cvl